

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/753,867
Attorney Docket: 46536-0002
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A fastener comprising:
an outer member including a cavity and defining a longitudinal axis;
an inner member integral with said outer member wherein one of said inner and outer members
includes a pair of axially spaced cams for displacing said outer member outwardly.
2. (ORIGINAL) The fastener of claim 1 wherein said outer member further includes a
sleeve head, an insertion tip and an intermediate portion extending between said sleeve head and said
insertion tip.
3. (ORIGINAL) The fastener of claim 1 wherein said outer member includes a sleeve
head, an insertion tip and an intermediate member having a first section extending from said sleeve head
and a second section extending from said insertion tip, said first and second sections meeting to form a
first living hinge.
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A fastener comprising: ~~The fastener of claim 3 further~~
including:
an outer member including a cavity;
an inner member integral with said outer member.

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/753,867
Attorney Docket: 46536-0002
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2005

a sleeve head, an insertion tip and an intermediate member having a first section extending from said sleeve head and a second section extending from said insertion tip, said first and second sections meeting to form a first living hinge,

a second living hinge between said intermediate member and said insertion tip,

said insertion tip having a reduced portion with substantially flat, substantially parallel sides at its distal end.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A fastener capable of being secured to a substrate member and having an uncoupled position and a coupled position, said fastener comprising:

an outer member defining a cavity, an inner member integrally formed with said outer member, said inner member being disposed in said cavity, and said outer member defining a longitudinal axis and wherein said outer member is moved along said longitudinal axis from the uncoupled position to the coupled position relative to said inner member,

said outer member includes a first arm and a second arm, said inner member being located between said arms and wherein said arms operatively cooperate with said inner member to displace the arms away from the longitudinal axis as said outer member is moved from the uncoupled to the coupled position,

said inner member having a radially outwardly curved first engagement portion and said outer member having a radially inwardly curved second engagement portion, said engagement portions abutting when said outer member is in the coupled position and displacing said arms away from said longitudinal axis as said outer member is moved from the coupled position toward the uncoupled position.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The fastener of claim 5 wherein said outer member further includes a sleeve head, including an insertion tip, and an intermediate portion extending between

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/753,867
Attorney Docket: 46536-0002
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2005

~~said sleeve head and said insertion tip, said intermediate portion defining said cavity for receiving said inner member and wherein said sleeve head includes a head recess and said inner member includes a shank head configured to be at least partially received within said head recess when said outer member is in the coupled position.~~

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The fastener of claim 6 wherein said sleeve head further includes a notch to~~ A fastener capable of being secured to a substrate member and having an uncoupled position and a coupled position, said fastener comprising:

an outer member defining a cavity, an inner member integrally formed with said outer member, said inner member being disposed in said cavity, and said outer member defining a longitudinal axis and wherein said outer member is moved along said longitudinal axis from the uncoupled position to the coupled position relative to said inner member.

said outer member including a sleeve head, an insertion tip, and an intermediate portion extending between said sleeve head and said insertion tip, said intermediate portion defining said cavity for receiving said inner member and wherein said sleeve head includes a head recess and said inner member includes a shank head configured to be at least partially received within said head recess when said outer member is in the coupled position.

said sleeve head further includes an angular notch at least partially within said sleeve head recess to permit pryable release of said outer member from said coupled position.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The fastener of claim 6 7 wherein said sleeve head includes a sleeve seat and said shank head includes a shank seat, said shank seat and said sleeve seat being approximately co-planar when said outer member is in the coupled position.

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/753,867
Attorney Docket: 46536-0002
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2005

9. (CANCELLED)

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The fastener of claim 4, ~~9 wherein said outer member includes a sleeve head, an insertion tip, and an intermediate portion extending between said sleeve head and said insertion tip,~~ said intermediate portion further including a first arm and a second arm, said first and second arms each including a lower projection, and ~~said a cam on said inner member further~~ including a cam surface operative and engaging at least one of said projections to displace said first and said second arms away from said longitudinal axis as said outer member is moved from the uncoupled position to the coupled position..

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The fastener of claim 1 further~~ A fastener comprising:
an outer member including a cavity and defining a longitudinal axis;
an inner member integral with said outer member wherein one of said inner and outer members
includes a cam for displacing said outer member outwardly,

a first releasable locking mechanism axially spaced from said cam, said first locking mechanism having an upper projection located on one of said outer member and said inner member, and an upper recess located on the other of said outer member and said inner member, said upper projection being disposed within said upper recess when said outer member is in the coupled position.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The fastener of claim 11~~ A fastener capable of being
secured to a substrate member and having an uncoupled position and a coupled position, said fastener
comprising:

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/753,867
Attorney Docket: 46536-0002
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2005

an outer member defining a cavity, an inner member integrally formed with said outer member, said inner member being disposed in said cavity, and said outer member defining a longitudinal axis and wherein said outer member is moved along said longitudinal axis from the uncoupled position to the coupled position relative to said inner member, said outer member further including a sleeve head,

a first releasable locking mechanism, said first locking mechanism having an upper projection located on one of said outer member and said inner member, and an upper recess located on the other of said outer member and said inner member, said upper projection being disposed within said upper recess when said outer member is in the coupled position,

a second releasable locking mechanism having a lower recess located on one of said inner member and said outer member and a lower projection located on the other of said outer member and said inner member, said lower projection being disposed within said lower recess when said outer member is in the coupled position,

said first and second releasable locking mechanisms resisting motion of said inner member relative to said sleeve head.

13. (ORIGINAL) The fastener of claim 5 wherein said outer member includes a sleeve head, an insertion tip, and an intermediate member having a first section extending from said sleeve head and a second section extending from said insertion tip, said first and second sections meeting to form a first living hinge.

14. (ORIGINAL) The fastener of claim 13 further including a second living hinge between said insertion tip and said intermediate member.

15. (CANCELLED)

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/753,867
Attorney Docket: 46536-0002
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2005

16. (ORIGINAL) The fastener of claim 5 wherein said fastener is a one piece injection molded part.

17. (ORIGINAL) The fastener of claim 5 wherein said outer member further includes a sleeve head having a coupling mechanism for coupling an item to the substrate member.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The fastener of claim 5 wherein said inner member includes an angled surface and an upper recess and~~ A fastener capable of being secured to a substrate member and having an uncoupled position and a coupled position, said fastener comprising:

an outer member defining a cavity,

an inner member integrally formed with said outer member, said inner member being disposed in said cavity, and said outer member defining a longitudinal axis and wherein said outer member is moved along said longitudinal axis from the uncoupled position to the coupled position relative to said inner member,

wherein one of said inner and outer members includes a pair of axially spaced projections, one of said projections engaging a said angled surface the other of said inner and outer members to displace said outer member away from said longitudinal axis as said outer member is moved from the uncoupled position to the coupled position, said upper the other of said projections being coupled to a mating said upper recess in the other of said inner and outer members in the coupled position.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A fastener having a longitudinal axis, said fastener capable of securing a first member to a substrate member, said fastener comprising:

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/753,867
Attorney Docket: 46536-0002
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2005

an outer member having a sleeve head, an insertion tip, and an intermediate member, said sleeve head including a head recess and said outer member defining a cavity;

an inner member integral with said outer member and extending in said cavity from said insertion tip toward said sleeve head, said inner member including a shank head configured to at least partially fit within said head recess;

a cam for displacing said intermediate member away from the longitudinal axis as said outer member moves from an uncoupled position to a coupled position; and

a releasable locking mechanism axially spaced from said cam for retaining said outer member in said coupled position.

20. (ORIGINAL) The fastener of claim 19 wherein said shank head includes a shank seat and said sleeve head includes a sleeve seat, said sleeve seat and said shank seat being formed so that said shank seat first engages the substrate member as a force is applied along the longitudinal axis to the sleeve head to move the fastener from the uncoupled position to the coupled position and wherein in the coupled position said sleeve seat and said shank seat are approximately aligned.

21. (NEW) The fastener of claim 20 wherein said locking mechanism is proximate said shank head.

22. (NEW) The fastener of claim 19 wherein said intermediate member has a first section extending from said sleeve head and a second section extending from said insertion tip, said first and second sections meeting to form a first living hinge.

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/753,867
Attorney Docket: 46536-0002
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2005

23. (NEW) The fastener of claim 18 wherein said outer member further includes a sleeve head including a head recess and said inner member includes a shank head configured to be at least partially received within said head recess when said outer member is in the coupled position.

24. (NEW) The fastener of claim 23 wherein said locking mechanism is proximate said shank head.

25. (NEW) The fastener of claim 18 wherein said outer member includes a sleeve head, an insertion tip, and an intermediate member having a first section extending from said sleeve head and a second section extending from said insertion tip, said first and second sections meeting to form a first living hinge.

26. (NEW) The fastener of claim 1 wherein said outer member further includes a sleeve head including a head recess and said inner member includes a shank head configured to be at least partially received within said head recess when said outer member is in the coupled position.

27. (NEW) The fastener of claim 11 wherein said outer member further includes a sleeve head including a head recess and said inner member includes a shank head configured to be at least partially received within said head recess when said outer member is in the coupled position.

28. (NEW) The fastener of claim 27 wherein said locking mechanism is proximate said shank head.

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/753,867
Attorney Docket: 46536-0002
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2005

29. (NEW) The fastener of claim 11 wherein said outer member includes a sleeve head, an insertion tip, and an intermediate member having a first section extending from said sleeve head and a second section extending from said insertion tip, said first and second sections meeting to form a first living hinge.